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(54) **Surface modified drug nanoparticles.**

(57) Dispersible particles consisting essentially of a crystalline drug substance having a surface modifier adsorbed on the surface thereof in an amount sufficient to maintain an effective average particle size of less than about 400 nm, methods for the preparation of such particles and dispersions containing the particles. Pharmaceutical compositions containing the particles exhibit unexpected bioavailability and are useful in methods of treating mammals.

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# PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

which under Rule 45 of the European Patent Convention  
shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent  
proceedings, as the European search report

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| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| Category  | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate,<br>of relevant passages   | Relevant<br>to claim  | CLASSIFICATION OF THE<br>APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 5) |
| X   | CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS, vol. 111, no. 8,<br>1989, Columbus, Ohio, US;<br>abstract no. 63850,<br>* abstract *<br>& INT. J. PHARM.<br>vol. 52, no. 2, 1989, ISTANBOEL<br>pages 101 - 108<br>GURSOY A. ET AL. 'Evaluation of<br>indomethacin nanocapsules for their<br>physical stability and inhibitory activity<br>on inflammation and platelet aggregation.' | 1-20  | A61K9/51<br>A61K49/04<br>B01J13/00                |
| X   | FR-A-2 304 326 (KREUTER AND SPEISER)<br>15 October 1976<br>* page 1, paragraph 2 -paragraph 3; claims<br>*<br>* page 2, line 31 - line 33 *<br>* page 3, line 3 - line 17 *<br>* page 7, line 13 - line 22 *   | 1-20  |   |
| X   | DE-A-3 722 837 (RUTGERSWERKE AG)<br>19 January 1989<br>* the whole document *  | 1-20  |   |
|   |  |   | TECHNICAL FIELDS<br>SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 5)         |
|   |  |   | A61K<br>B01J                                      |
| INCOMPLETE SEARCH   |  |   |   |
| <p>The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with<br/>the provisions of the European Patent Convention to such an extent that it is not possible to carry<br/>out a meaningful search into the state of the art on the basis of some of the claims</p> <p>Claims searched completely:<br/>Claims searched incompletely:<br/>Claims not searched:<br/>Reason for the limitation of the search:</p> <p>see sheet C</p> |  |   |   |
| Place of search<br>THE HAGUE  |  | Date of completion of the search<br>15 DECEMBER 1992  | Examiner<br>BERTE M.                              |
| CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS   |  |   |   |
| X : particularly relevant if taken alone<br>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another<br>document of the same category<br>A : technological background<br>O : non-written disclosure<br>P : intermediate document  |  | T : theory or principle underlying the invention<br>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or<br>after the filing date<br>D : document cited in the application<br>L : document cited for other reasons<br>* * * * *<br>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding<br>document |   |

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| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT |  |                   | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 5) |
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| Category                            | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages  | Relevant to claim |  |
| X                                   | WO-A-8 400 294 (SCHRÖDER U.)<br>February 284<br>* page 1, line 21 - line 29 *<br>* page 3, line 15 - line 20; claims *<br>* page 7, line 18 - line 26 *<br>* page 8, line 17 - line 23 *<br>---                                    | 1-20              |  |
| X                                   | WO-A-9 015 593 (YTKEMISKA INSTITUTET)<br>27 December 1990<br>* page 1, line 2 - line 4 *<br>* page 3, line 18 - line 34 *<br>* page 4 - page 6 *<br>* page 7, line 17 - page 8, line 12 *<br>* page 9, line 24 - line 28; claims * | 1-20              |  |
| Y                                   | ---  | 1-20              | TECHNICAL FIELDS<br>SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 5)      |
| Y                                   | US-A-3 192 118 (O. A. BATTISTA)<br>29 June 1965<br>* claims *  | 1-20              |  |
| P,A                                 | WO-A-9 115 193 (RHONE-POULENC RORER S.A.)<br>17 October 1991<br>* page 1, line 28 - page 2, line 10 *<br>* page 2, line 29 - page 3, line 34;<br>claims *  | 1-20              |  |
| D,X                                 | DE-A-3 013 839 (FREUND INDUSTRIAL CO.)<br>30 October 1980<br>* claims; examples 6,8,13,13 *<br>& US-A-4 540 602<br>-----   | 1-20              |  |